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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of August, 1990)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during August. The land crew total decreased by three to 102, and the marine crew total decreased by one for a total of 125 crews and vessels.

The August total (125) represents a decrease of 3% from last month, a 9% decrease from August, 1989, a 31% decrease from August, 1988, a 35% decrease from August, 1987, a 19% decrease from August, 1986, a 66% decrease from August, 1985, and **a decrease of 76% from the same month in 1984.**

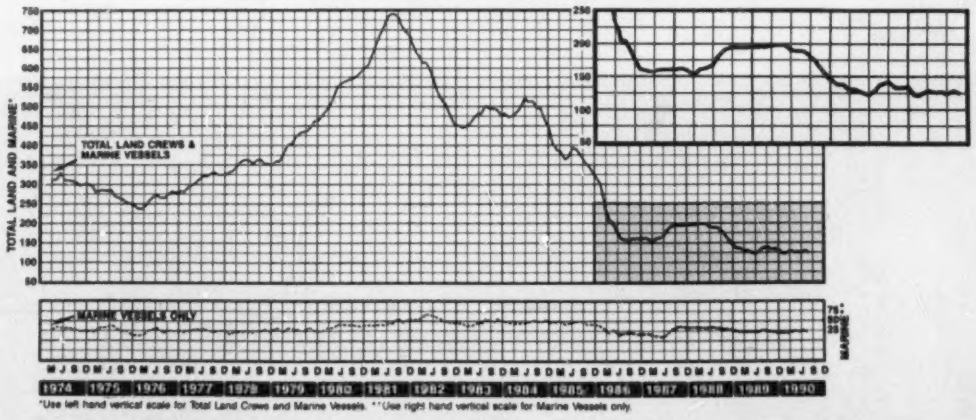
During August, six contractors were operating seven of the 94 land crews and two of the twenty-one marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Aug.'89	Aug.'88	Aug.'87	Aug.'86	Aug.'85	Aug.'84
	125	129	138	181	193	155	372	524

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1989	Aug. 1988	Aug. 1987	Aug. 1986	Aug. 1985	Aug. 1984	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1989	Aug. 1988	Aug. 1987	Aug. 1986	Aug. 1985	Aug. 1984
35 Contr's:	94	97	104	136	151	114	290	435	21	21	21	25	26	20	43	44
5 Oil Co's:	8	8	10	15	13	17	33	37	2	2	3	4	3	4	6	7
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	102	105	114	151	164	131	323	472	23	24	24	30	29	24	49	52

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
MARINE**
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

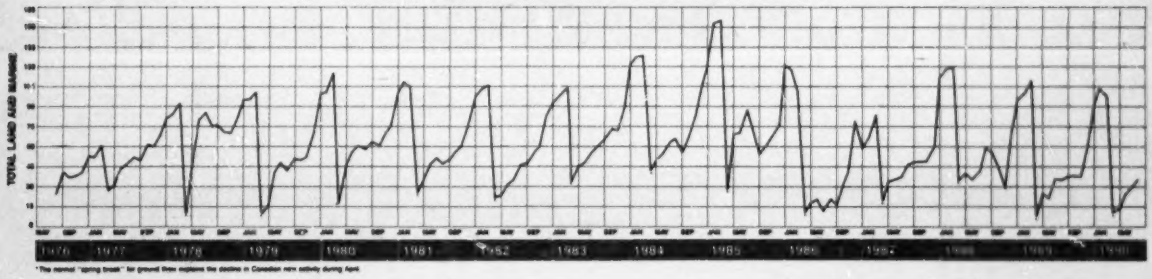
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

August, 1990 (July figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Crews
23 Contractors:	33 (25)	3 (3)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	34 (26)	3 (3)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)